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## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## KDHE Special Health Care Needs program hosts fourth round of regional meetings

**Topeka, Kan. -** The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Special Health Care Needs program is hosting regional meetings to engage agencies and organizations serving Kansas children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN) and stakeholders; including parents, caregivers and individuals.

The focus of the meetings will be on developing a state plan that outlines future goals and strategies of the Special Health Care Needs program. The plan will work to strengthen collaboration, support systems integration and improve service delivery for CYSHCN.

The state plan is part of a two-year grant awarded to KDHE focusing on CYSHCN and their families. The primary objective of the grant is to support access for CYSHCN to receive services through an accessible, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated, compassionate, culturally competent and family-centered medical home. This tour is the fourth round of regional meetings, with a distinct focus on family professional partnerships and engagement among the CYSHCN population.

Pre-registration is required for these meetings as space is limited. Meeting information and the online registration is available at <a href="https://www.kdheks.gov/shcn/meeting">www.kdheks.gov/shcn/meeting</a>. Meetings will be held from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. on the dates listed below.

Date	City	Location
August 1	Overland Park	Johnson County Community College 12345 College Blvd- Room RC 270, Overland Park, KS
August 15	Garden City	Comfort Inn 2608 E Kansas Ave, Garden City, KS
August 16	Hays	Fort Hays State University US 183 Alternate, Hays, KS
August 24	Independence	City of Independence Memorial Hall and Civic Center 410 N Penn Ave-Legion Meeting Room, Independence, KS
August 31	Salina	Candlewood Suites 2650 Planet Ave, Salina, KS
September 7	Wichita	WSU Eugene Hughes Metropolitan Complex 5015 E 29 <sup>th</sup> St N-Room 138 Meeting Hall (Enter Door D)

To learn how you can participate, or for more information on the grant project or the regional meetings, please contact Heather Smith, Special Health Services Director, at 785-296-4747 or by email at <a href="heather.smith@ks.gov">heather.smith@ks.gov</a>.

A detailed description of how the national standards were developed is available by visiting <a href="http://www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/CYSHCN/Documents/Standards%20Charts%20FINAL.pdf">http://www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/CYSHCN/Documents/Standards%20Charts%20FINAL.pdf</a>.